

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 076005  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY IO:GBHELMAN:FEJ

APPROVED BY IO:CWMAYNES

AF - MR. HARROP

S/S SGOLDSMITH

-----114276 240321Z /64

O 240306Z MAR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 076005

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA

1. WE LEARN FROM USUN THAT CONTACT GROUP IS NOT PLANNING TO CONCLUDE ITS WORK ON THE NAMIBIA PROPOSAL AND ITS ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS UNTIL SOMETIME NEXT WEEK. OTHER MEMBERS OF CONTACT GROUP ARGUE THAT EASTER HOLIDAY HAS EMPTIED THEIR FOREIGN MINISTRIES AND THEY ARE IN NO POSITION TO GET TIMELY GUIDANCE.

2. WE HAVE ALSO RECEIVED PERSUASIVE EVIDENCE THAT THE  
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SOUTH AFRICANS MAY BE PLANNING WITHIN A WEEK TO ANNOUNCE A DATE FOR NAMIBIAN ELECTIONS AND PERHAPS TO TAKE OTHER STEPS ASSOCIATED WITH AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT OF THE NAMIBIA QUESTION.

3. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL THAT THE CONTACT GROUP COMPLETE ITS WORK SO THAT THE PROPOSAL

CAN BE PRESENTED TO SWAPO AND TO SOUTH AFRICA WELL IN  
ADVANCE OF ANY PROSPECTIVE SOUTH AFRICAN ANNOUNCEMENT.  
BY TAKING SUCH A STEP WE BELIEVE THAT SOUTH AFRICA PERHAPS  
CAN BE DETERRED FROM PROCEEDING ON AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT.  
BECAUSE THE CONTACT GROUP IS IN A RACE AGAINST TIME, WE  
HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ASK ITS MEMBERS TO CONCLUDE THEIR

WORK BY THIS WEEKEND AT LATEST SO THAT THE PROPOSALS ARE  
IN PLACE FOR PRESENTATION FIRST THING TUESDAY.

4. ACTION ADDRESSEES SHOULD CONVEY FOREGOING TO FOREIGN  
MINISTRIES, WITH EXPRESSION OF SUITABLE CONCERN AT INTER-  
RUPTING THEIR EASTER WEEKEND, AND ASK THAT THE NECESSARY  
INSTRUCTIONS BE SENT TO THEIR REPRESENTATIVES IN NEW YORK.  
VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014